

What is claimed is:

1. In combination with an appliance having a water supply line, an automated water disabling valve comprising:
  - a hollow shell in fluid communication with said water supply line;
  - 5 a sensing means received within said shell for determining if water is flowing through said shell;
  - a disabling means received within said shell and in communication with said sensing means for disabling water flow through said shell upon said sensing means determining that water flow through said shell has continued beyond a 10 predetermined duration.
2. The valve according claim 1 wherein said shell further includes an inlet, an outlet and a conduit extending therebetween.
3. The valve according to claim 2 wherein said sensing means includes:
  - 15 a channel extending from a first position on said conduit proximal said inlet to a second position adjacent said outlet, said channel including a throat therein;
  - a spring-biased magnet received within said channel;
  - a Hall effect device positioned exteriorly of said channel and proximal the throat, said Hall effect device in communication with said disabling means whereby water flow through said conduit results in a pressure drop within said

channel forcing said magnet into said throat to disable flow therethrough while simultaneously actuating said Hall effect device to signal said disabling means to alert said disabling means that water flow to said appliance is occurring.

4. The valve according to claim 2 wherein said disabling means includes:

5 a valve positioned within said conduit for selectively disabling flow therethrough;  
a microprocessor means connected to said valve and said sensing means;  
a timer means integral with said microprocessor means for transmitting an instructional signal to said microprocessor means upon expiration of a  
10 predetermined duration whereby upon said sensing means detecting water flow through said conduit after expiration of the predetermined duration, a signal is transmitted to said microprocessor means which immediately closes said valve to disable water flow through said conduit.

5. The device according to claim 4 wherein said shell includes an exterior

15 surface with a switch means thereon for selectively adjusting the predetermined duration.